

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5676

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OEXC, IT

SUBJ: CONFERENCE OF UNIVERSITY RECTORS, TRIESTE

FOR CU/WE

1. ON FEBRUARY 4 AMBASSADOR RECEIVED INVITATION TO SEND CULTURAL ATTACHE AS OBSERVER TO CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS IN TRIESTE MAY 27-29, "TO STUDY THE CONCRETE APPLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF THE PRINCIPLES SET IN THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT". MESSAGE SPECIFIES THAT US WILL NOT HAVE DELEGATION OF RECTORS; CANADIANS RECEIVED SAME INFORMATION. EUROPEAN NATIONS WITH WHICH WE HAVE CHECKED ALL RECEIVED DIFFERENT MESSAGE: THEIR CULTURAL ATTACHES ARE INVITED

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TO OBSERVE, BUT IN ADDITION TO A PARTICIPATING DELEGATION

OF RECTOS FROM EACH COUNTRY.

2. MESSAGE, SIGNED BY THE RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE, APPARENTLY ISSUES FROM ITALIAN COUNCIL OF RECTORS. ITS INSISTENCE ON HELSINKI FRAMEWORK AND THE KIND OF THEMES WHICH IT INDICATES WILL BE DISCUSSED LINK IT TO BASKET THREE FOLLOW-ON. PRIVATE INDICATIONS ARE THAT DELEGATE FROM SOVIET UNION INSTRUMENTAL IN PUSHING THROUGH THIS POSITION.

3. DISCUSSION WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR FONMIN, IN PRESENCE OF CULTURAL ATTACHES OF GERMANY, UK AND FRANCE, BROUGHT WELL-INFORMED FONMIN RECOMMENDATION TO THESE GOVERNMENTS THAT THEY NOT ATTEND.

4. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STRUCTURE OF THIS MEETING AND THE EXCLUSION OF US AND CANADA. WE THEREFORE SEE FOUR OPTIONS:

- (1) BOYCOTT THE AFFAIR AND URGE OTHERS TO DO SO;
- (2) ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO OBSERVER STATUS;
- (3) ACCEPT THE INVITATION BUT INSIST ON A BROADER US REPRESENTATION AS OBSERVERS, TO INCLUDE AT LEAST A BASKET THREE EXPERT AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE US UNIVERSITIES; AND
- (4) PRESS IN COORDINATION WITH WEST EUROPEAN ALLIES FOR FULL PARTICIPATION FOR THE US AND CANADA.

5. REQUEST GUIDANCE. VOLPE

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